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ADVERTISER

WRITER

PROGRAM TITLE

OK

CHICAGO OUTLET

(TIME (DATE (DAY)))

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

ANNOUNCER: "Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers"

ORCHESTRA: QUARTET: RANGER SONG

ANNOUNCER: "You will see to it that the water, the wood, and the forage of the National Forests are conserved and wisely used." That was what the Secretary of Agriculture said to the Chief Forester back in the days of Theodore Roosevelt, and that is the principle under which our National Forests have been administered for more than 30 years. Conservation by wise use -- and the men on the job protecting the National Forests and looking after their wise and continuous use are Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers.

Well, here we go to the Pine Cone Ranger Station. Folks around those parts drop into the Station frequently of an evening and get Ranger Jim Robbins telling stories about the Forest Service or describing some of our great National Forests. Let's see if he's got any stories up his sleeve this time --

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Folks must like us, Bees. We've got a lot of company tonight.

BEES: Yes, and look at the lovely cake Mrs. Appleton brought over.

JIM: Mmm. Sure looks nice.

BEES: It is nice. You go in there now, Jim, and entertain the folks while I get it ready to serve.

JIM: Wait a minute, Bess, I gotta finish cleaning these papers. Jerry's in there. He'll look after 'em.

BESS: No, you go ahead, Jim. Never mind that old pipe.

JIM: (CHUCKLING) Guess you don't think much of that pipe, huh, Bess? -- (TO COMPANY) Well, howdy, folks. Sure glad to see you.

VOICES: Hello Mr. Robbins: hello, Jim, etc.

MARY: Mr. Robbins -- ?

JIM: Yes, Mary?

MARY: I brought little Billy here along with me tonight. I knew you wouldn't mind.

JIM: Mind? I should say not. Billy's a regular pal of mine.

MARY: He stayed after school and begged me to bring him over here tonight. He wants to be a Ranger some day, you know.

JIM: Wants to be a Ranger, eh? (CHUCKLES) Well, sorry, I reckon one of the things a Ranger needs is a lot of good sound schooling -- and I guess your teacher here, Miss Holloway, can give it to you if anybody can.

MARY: Thank you, Mr. Robbins.

JIM: Well, folks, has Jerry been taking care of you all right?

VOICES: Yes; sure; etc.

JERRY: I couldn't tell 'em any stories though, Jim. That's your job.

JIM: My job, eh? I didn't know that was part of a Ranger's job.

JERRY: Well, that's a little extra we've wished on you, Jim.

MARY: Yes, indeed. We enjoy hearing you tell about the National Forests so much, Mr. Robbins. I wish we could have these little gatherings more often - every week, for instance.

JIM: Well, it's kinda hard for a Ranger to keep a regular routine like that, Mary. You never can tell when you're going to be called on in an emergency - especially now with the season of worst fire danger coming along. - But we sure enjoy having you folks drop into the station any time we have an evening free. -- and if you want me to, I'll try to have something interesting to tell you about now and then.

MARY: That's fine, Mr. Robbins.

JERRY: How about tonight, Jim?

JIM: Well, let me get the old pipe going, and see if I can think of something. -- Hmm. Got a doggone tooth that's been botherin' today. -- Kinda upsets this business of thinkin'. Oughta see the dentist about it, but I've kept putting it off.

JERRY: I know how that is.

BESS: Jim always puts off going to the dentist just as long as he can.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Well, that reminds me of something anyhow. -- One time, Ranger Taylor, over on the Nevada National Forest, was fixin' to take a long trip into the back country, so he put in a requisition for supplies and groceries and things at the headquarters warehouse, getting his outfit together for the trip. Next day, Ranger Windows was starting out on a trip too, so he goes to the warehouse to requisition his supplies, and thinking he'd save time, he says: "Just duplicate Taylor's order." They did - and Ranger Windows had to live on soup all the rest of the summer. It seems the other Ranger had recently parted company with his teeth

(LAUGHTER)

JERRY: Boy, that was a good one on him.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Yes -- Well, what do you want me to tell you about tonight?

MARY: Anything, Mr. Robbins. You can always think of something interesting.

JIM: Yeah? Well, -- Hmm - Let's see. -- What day is today?

JERRY: Friday, the 24th of April.

JIM: April 24th, huh? That's something.

MARY: What, Mr. Robbins?

JIM: Just about three years ago was the start of something pretty big.

BESS: What was it, Jim?

JERRY: I bet I know what it was

JIM: What, Jerry?

JERRY: Never mind. You tell it, Jim.

JIM: Well, let's take a trip over to Virginia. We have a fine National Forest there - the George Washington National Forest. -- One night just about three years ago it was raining cats and dogs on the George Washington National Forest. Raining great bucketsfull. It was plenty wet, and dismal, and dreary. That day a bunch of motor trucks had labored up a narrow, winding, dirt road, grinding over the ruts, getting stuck in the mud. A couple of hundred young boys were in those trucks, - wet, cold, bedraggled youngsters, huddled together to keep up their courage, wondering what was to happen. Most of them were from the big cities: the forest was strange to them: dark, silent, terrifying. -- Finally they reached the end of the road, a little open glade in the Forest. All that night the boys worked in the rain, making camp. Forest Rangers and Army officers showed them how to cut poles, how to stretch the tents. There was no sleep that night. There was plenty of rain and cold and discomfort. -- So, three years ago, the first CCC camp was established. Just three years ago, the march of hundreds of thousands of boys into the forests began.

MARY: Three years ago! Wasn't that an interesting story?

JIM.

(CHUCKLES) That's just the beginning of the story, Mary. That first CCC camp came into being under difficult conditions. There was a lot of rain that spring. Most of the boys were new to the woods, very few of them knew how to handle tools. A few of them walked out and went down the road - they couldn't take it, as the CCC boys say. But except for those few, the boys stuck with it. The first camp was a collection of tents. Before the year was out, they had nice barracks, and a headquarters building, and recreation and mess hall. There was a mighty fine Army officer in charge of the camp, and a mighty fine Forest Ranger in charge of the boys on the job. -- Well, that pioneer camp is still going. I saw a report on their accomplishments the other day, and I guess the boys oughta be proud of it. In the last three years they've finished 13 miles of the Fort Valley highway, through Mooreland Gap, and they've built several miles of forest protection roads besides. They've finished ten reinforced concrete bridges, and they've fixed up two beautiful public campgrounds, and a place for picnickers at the Woodstock fire lookout tower. They've completed 25 miles of horse trails, and strung 57 miles of telephone line, and finished 2,000 acres of timber stand improvement. Along with those and a lot of other smaller jobs, they've fought and put out twelve forest fires on the George Washington Forest.

(MORE)

JOE: (CONT) They've done real sense work, and lots of it. Good boys. And they've sure watched up the improvement program of the George Washington National Forest. The Forest Rangers that laid out their work for these boys they're mighty pleased with the results they've accomplished. They have nothing but praise for the boys. — (CHUCKLES) And I expect up there on the George Washington Forest the boys in that first camp've been celebrating their third anniversary this week, too.

JERRY: I guess they have.

MARY: Tell us some more about the George Washington National Forest, Mr. Robbins.

JIM: Well, it was named after George Washington.

ESSIE: Of course it was. You don't need to tell us that.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Well, it was appropriately named, I reckon, too. George Washington as a young man did some of his early surveying work in what is now the National Forest, and there's quite a few historic places scattered over the Forest that are connected with events in the life of the first President.

JERRY: And of course Virginia, where the National Forest is located — that was the home State of George Washington.

JIM:

Yep. -- Well, the George Washington is one of the biggest National Forests in the East. It's in three divisions -- one division on each side of the beautiful Shenandoah Valley, and one farther south, called the Natural Bridge Division. The famous Natural Bridge of Virginia, though, -- that was what this part of the Forest was named after -- it's not in the Forest: it's in private ownership, with a fence around it, and you have to pay to get in and see it. -- All of the land in the George Washington Forest has been purchased by the Government over a period of years, starting back in 1911 or thereabouts, and there's still a lot of land to be purchased within the established boundaries of the Forest: the purchasing program is still going on. -- Most of the forest land when it was bought by the Government had been logged over, and burned over repeatedly, and the Forest Service is taking on a big job bringing it back. But already, with careful fire protection and good management, they've got lots of fine new forest growing. Some of it is already furnishing material for local industries, and seeing as it will only be cut under Forest Service supervision, this time, it'll mean a steady supply of timber for the local industries: and that means steady employment -- they won't have to face the prospect of closing up again with the exhaustion of the timber supply. In other words, there'll be sustained yield.

JERRY:

JIM: Top. Sustained yield. That's what the Foresters want it. -- Well, besides that, other parts of the Forest are devoted to recreation and other things. There's some fine camping and picnic grounds. The Ellsworth Furber Camp, for instance, is at the site of an old iron foundry back in the early days. It's a popular place for camping and picnicking with the people of Washington, D.C. The Forest Service is having the CCC boys fix up a swimming place there too. Then there's lots of other recreation places. Good hiking and horseback trails, wonderful auto trips and views from the lookout points. The Appalachian Trail, that's going to run along the backbone of the mountain all the way from Maine to Georgia, -- it runs through a part of the George Washington Forest. Appalachian Trail Club members make lots of trips up into the Forest. Then over in the Shenandoah Division on the west side of the Valley, the Girl Scouts of Washington have fixed up a fine summer outing place.

JERRY: Under permit from the Forest Service?

JIM: Yes. -- Then there's lots of other interesting things. Down in the Natural Bridge Division, the Forest Service has set aside a game refuge -- it's called the Big Levels Game Refuge, and the Forest Service and the Biological Survey are experimenting in scientific game management in there. And we're stocking deer and wild turkeys and other game in other parts of the Forest, too, to build up the wildlife resources. Then there's another place where they've set aside an experimental area to try growing some new strains of chestnut -- you know, a chestnut blight that started 30 or more years ago, has practically wiped out all the native chestnut all over the East -- Yep, there's lots of interesting things in the George Washington. If I tried to tell you about all of 'em I'd be talking along here all night.

MARY: Go ahead. I wish you would, Mr. Robbins.

JIM: (CHUCKLES) Nope, I guess I've rambled along enough. -- I was just thinking again about some of the nice horseback trips a fellow could make in the George Washington National Forest --- reminded me of a little piece one of the boys wrote awhile back, after he'd been driving a truck up in the rough country a long spell. I'll tell you that instead. He calls it "The Faithful Horse," and it goes something like this, near as I can remember:

Oh horse, you are a wondrous thing.
No horns to honk, no bells to ring.
No sparks to miss, no gears to strip.
You start yourself, no clutch to slip.
No anti-freeze to test each day,
To steal the joy of life away.
Your spark plugs never miss or fuss:
Your motor never makes us cuss.
Your frame is good for many a mile,
Your body never changes style.
Your wants are few, and easy met --
You've something on the truck as yet.

(FADEOUT)

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers is presented by the National Broadcasting Company, with the cooperation of the United States Forest Service.

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